(b) Single passenger fare is to be charged. No inconvenience should be caused to the passengers.

(c) No.

MR. P. KOCHUKRISHNA PILLAI: Can the member tell us the manner in which these animals are allowed to be taken in the buses ?

MR. N. RAMAMURTI: Yes, Sir. They are to be carried at the discretion of the conductor in consultation with the other passengers. If they have no objection, they will be carried and it is only lap-dogs and inoffensive animals that will be allowed to be carried in the buses.

MR. P. K. KURIAKOSE: May I know whether there are any other arrangements made to carry animals in lorries ?

MR. N. RAMAMURTI: Yes, only on contract rates.

Recruitment of Conductors.

316. * MR. P. KOCHUKRISHNA PILLAI: Will the Government be pleased to state :

(a) whether any minimum qualification is prescribed for recruitment as conductor in the State Transport Department ;

(b) if the answer is in the affirmative, the minimum qualification prescribed ;

(c) whether the Director of State Transport Department has selected in 1121, candidates not possessing the minimum qualification ;

(d) if the answer is 'yes', the number of candidates thus selected ; and

(e) the reason if any, for such selection ?

MR. N. RAMAMURTI: (a) Yes.

(b) E. S. L. C.

(c) Yes.

(d) Ten.

(e) The rule is relaxed in cases where a backward community is not adequately represented due to the non-availability of candidates with the prescribed qualification.

MR. P. KOCHUKRISHNA PILLAI: May I know whether the rule has been relaxed recently ?

MR. N. RAMAMURTI: No, Sir.

Conductors in the Transport Department.

317. * MR. S. THIRAVIAM NADAR : Will the Government be pleased to state :

(a) the number of conductors in the Transport Department ;

(b) the number of conductors from the Nadar community ;

(c) the number of conductors appointed in 1120 and 1121 ;

(d) the number of conductors appointed from the Nadar community ; and

(e) the number of applications received from the Nadar community ?

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